



Speed Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 9:06pm ET by Patty

In Attendance:

- Patty Leazier
- Mikey Ratliff
- Jay Ingram
- Deb Alpers
- Robin Pendergast
- Kelly Springer
- Erin Jackson
- Brian Talley
- Sammy Johnson
- Darian Orozco
- McKenzie Browne
- Tosha Hill

Missing:

- Deb Alpers

Declaration of Conflicts

- Patty is at practice with 2 athletes, but has Bluetooth for privacy. 2 trying out for World Team, associated with Bont, former staff member
- Tosha involved with meets in Florida and will be applying for position for indoor and outdoor nationals, and family owns equipment related to nationals cameras, and is an official
- Mikey – coach of athlete trying out for team, owns a skate company that does business in US and sponsors athletes trying out for team, previous world team staff member
- Kelly – coach of athlete trying out for team, owns a skate company that does business in US and sponsors athletes and events, past and present staff member
- Darian – athlete trying out for team, owner of skate company that does business in US
- Brian – will be applying to be an official at indoor and outdoor Nationals
- Sammy – coach and parent of athlete trying out for world team
- McKenzie – no conflicts
- Erin – US Speedskating board, may try out for world team
- Jay – former world team staff member, organizer of camps, and is coaching practice during the meeting
- Robin – coach of athletes that will be trying out for world team

Welcome New Members (Sammy/Darian/Brian)

- The Speed Committee is lucky to have 3 awesome new members

World Team Selection Process

- The proposal that Erin submitted is very straightforward, easy to understand and apply, and it also gives the coaches input to fill the final spots.
- Will need to remove anything where selection is based on a judgement call. Qualification process must be clear.
- There are 9 races, and we would need to make sure the wording is clean to avoid any pushbacks.
- Consider encouraging skaters to only sign up for only the distances that they would want to skate.
- The proposal eliminates confusion around how to qualify for their preferred events (placing in multiple races)
- Make this concept applicable in a residency situation, where they qualify for residency, and then choose the team from residency after they demonstrate consistency. Could have multiple track and road events to qualify for residency, and then earn your world team spot based on residency.
- Will need to take any change back to membership, can we send to all coaches instead in addition to regional reps
- Might be putting too much emphasis on ODN. Earning points all year long would give us a better idea of who is truly the best for the job. Something like this would have to be set 6 months ahead of the season where it was implemented. Would have to check with USOPC guidelines to make sure we could do a series.
- Modifications need to be made to Erin's proposal before we can proceed.
- Address concerns about teamworking with rules changes instead of qualification change

Declassify and Victim Rule Clarification and Scenarios

- What kind of foul would be considered a declassification versus a disqualification?
- Declassification is incidental, versus disqualification which is intentional
- In World Skate – a declassification cannot happen in a 500m final
- These are 2 separate rules and do not need to be linked
- Suggest 1 lap on both rules, too hard to keep track of all skaters for the remaining 2 laps
- Declassification can be used to encourage racing instead of skaters settling for a position instead of risking advancing a position

ODN Dates Votes/Approved by Board

- Dates have been approved by the board, and we are working on a backup plan for location (Colorado Springs), with road possibly being in Denver

Fall BPP Clinic Summary

- The Fall clinic had good attendance, good coaching, good demonstrators.
- Coaches meetings between every session to prepare for the upcoming sessions.
- Harry and Julie were great and reinforced the idea that we need this level at upcoming camps.

- December clinic has nobody signed up, the committee would like to consider canceling the clinic
- Due to conflicting World Skate Events, and in consideration of our membership, we are going to postpone our December clinic.

Nominations For Speed Committee Chair/Vice/Secretary

- Kelly nominated Robin for Chair, Jay seconded, committee approved
- Mikey nominated Kelly, Darian seconded, committee approved
- Kelly nominated Deb for Secretary, Mikey seconded, committee approved
- New officers: Chairperson = Robin, Co-Chair = Kelly, Secretary = Deb

Tosha made a motion to adjourn, Patty seconded. Adjourned 10:36pm ET.

Future meetings:

7:00pm ET on 2nd Thursday of every month